

In the Specification:

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 7, line 8 with the following paragraph:

The outer sleeve 30 has a circumferential elongated slot 48 with a transverse axially aligned extension 50 at one end thereof in which a forward pin 52 is preferably press fit into an opening 54 in the end 16 of the plunger rod 12. A diagonal wall 56 is defined by a recess in the inside of the outer sleeve, i.e., the left end portion 58 of the recess as shown in FIGS. 1 and 2 is closer to the front end wall 32 than the right end 60 of the recess. The wall 56 has a length that is approximately equal to the length of the slot 48 in that rotation of the pin 52 in the slot 48 extends through an arc that is preferably at least equal to the angular arc between ends 58 and 60 of the wall 56.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 7, line 28 with the following paragraph:

While not specifically illustrated, the outer sleeve 30 has a recess diametrically opposed to the recess defining the wall 56 that is virtually identical to it, but diametrically opposed. The protrusion 72 is adapted to fit within the recess defining the wall 56 and the opposite protrusion similarly engages the recess slot on the opposite side of the outer sleeve 30, so that when there is relative rotational movement between the inner sleeve and the outer sleeve, the angular orientation of the slot ~~56~~ 48 will cause axial movement of the inner sleeve 70 relative to the outer sleeve 72. As is best shown in FIG. 7, the inner sleeve 70 also has a pair of radially oriented inwardly extending ribs 76 that are diametrically opposite one another that are configured to fit within the slot 18 of the end portion 16 of the plunger rod 12 which prevents rotational movement of the inner sleeve 70 relative to the outer sleeve or the plunger rod 12.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 10, line 10 with the following paragraph:

The clamping collar also has an aperture ~~136~~137 that extends substantially the full length of the clamping collar and is sized to receive a transverse end leg 138 of a torsion spring 140. An opposite leg 142 is oriented in a radial direction in the center of the spring so that it fits within the slot 18 of the plunger end portion 16. This secures the end portion 142 from rotation so that the opposite end portion 138 when inserted into the aperture creates a torsional force applied to the clamping collar 124 and the control sleeve 102 if they are rotated relative to the position of the end 142.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 10, line 30 with the following paragraph:

During operation of this embodiment, when the apparatus 100 is in its unlocked position and referring to FIG. 11 (which shows the apparatus in either its clamped or unclamped position), the pin 108 will be located in the slot the extension 112. This holds the apparatus in this unclamped position. When a blade 14 is inserted into the apparatus, the shoulders 22 of the blade will engage the front end wall 104 of the control sleeve 102 and with sufficient force applied will move the control sleeve 102 in the rearward direction which will release the pin 108 from the slot extension 112 and biasing force resulting from the torsion spring 140 will rotate the control sleeve 102 as well as the clamping collar 124 in the clockwise direction as shown by arrow 164. Clockwise rotation of these two components enables the cam surface ~~126~~132 of the clamping collar 124 to engage the detente 158 and move it radially inwardly to engage the hole 28 in the shank 20. When the blade moves the control sleeve 102 rearwardly, it compressed the compression spring 154 by engaging the support ring 144 and pushing it in the rearward direction.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 11, line 12 with the following paragraph:

To unlock the apparatus, a user manually rotates the control sleeve 102 in the counterclockwise direction, i.e., the direction opposite the arrow 164, which causes the cam surface 132 to release the detente 158 and when the rotation is sufficient so that the pin 108 is axially aligned with the transverse extension 112, the compression spring will force the spring support and control sleeve forwardly which causes the pin to enter the transverse slot 112 which is the unclamped position of the apparatus. The movement of the control sleeve 102 forwardly normally ejects the blade as a result of the front and end wall 104 pushing the blade from the slot 18.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 12, line 1 with the following paragraph:

The clamping collar 202 has a radially inwardly directed protrusion 210 located at the front end thereof that is relatively thin and narrow as shown in FIG. 20. The clamping collar 202 also has plurality of small ramp-like protrusions 212 as well as two larger protrusions 214 which facilitate gripping by a user to rotate the clamping collar to the unclamped position as will be hereinafter explained. The clamping collar also has an axial rib ~~216~~211 in the rear portion thereof for engaging a recess in a support ring 218. The rear part of the support ring 218 has an enlarged end forming a shoulder 224 that is adapted to contact the end surface of the clamping collar 202. The main part of the support ring 218 is adapted to slide within the rear portion of the clamping collar 202. By virtue of the complementary rib and recess construction, the support ring 218 and clamping collar 202 will necessarily rotate together as is desired. The support ring 218 also has an axially oriented aperture or slot 226 that is adapted to receive the transverse end 228 of a torsion spring 230, the opposite end thereof being radially oriented and configured to fit within the slot 18 of the plunger rod end 16.